



# Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



## ROME, GEORGIA

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



- January 20<sup>th</sup>: Presentation to the DAR organization Mary Hardin Thornton and Tiffany Abbot-Fuller DAR Members
- February 5<sup>th</sup>: Bee City USA-Rome, GA Facebook Page, Andi Beyer, Facebook Users
- February 6<sup>th</sup>: Presentation for Garden Study Group
- February 14<sup>th</sup>: Presentation for Townview Garden Club
- February 20<sup>th</sup>: Presentation for Floyd County Master Gardeners
- March 7<sup>th</sup>: Presentation for 2nd Ave. Baptist Wed. Night Supper
- March 24<sup>th</sup>: Creating a Pollinator Garden, Ginny Word, Master Gardener Workshop Series
- April 12<sup>th</sup>: Bee Better Speaker Series, Emma Wells, Monica Sheppard, Andi Beyer, Ginny Word Basics of Beekeeping
- May 7<sup>th</sup>: West End Elem. School STEM Celebration, Emma Wells and Ginny Word, Students, Faculty, Local and State Dignitaries
- May 24<sup>th</sup>: Downtown Development Coffee, Emma Wells, Ginny Word, Monica Sheppard, Downtown Retailers and Shop Owners
- June 18<sup>th</sup>: Book Reading & Skits at the Children's Library, Tiffany Abbot-Fuller, Emma Wells, and Ginny Word Young Children, Parents and Grandparents
- June 19<sup>th</sup>: Pollinator Basics Emma Wells, Monica Sheppard, Andi Beyer and Ginny Word, Pollinator Basics for Novices
- June 20<sup>th</sup>: Sip and Paint for Pollinators, Emma Wells, Interested Citizen
- June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Bee Fest Emma Wells, Monica Sheppard, Andi Beyer, Ginny Word, Adults and Children at the Local Farmers Market

Our most successful Education/Outreach event was our Bee Fest at the Rome Farmers Market, which featured a scavenger hunt, crafts, local honey, native plant sale, and deals from different vendors on pollinator products. This event was a huge success for National Pollinator Week! We also released a Rome "Bee Rome" sticker for pollinator week, but most businesses have kept these stickers up all year round! We now sell these decals in our local visitors' center, and are planning to add shirts and market bags as well!

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT

Our affiliate sponsored "Pollinator Plots" throughout our community parks in areas that were identified as hard to mow and unused for any other purposes. 8 plots were tilled and planted with pollinator blends of wildflower seeds to improve over 10 acres at 5 different parks. We intend to continue this project on an additional 40 acres in the future! Our local garden clubs also revamped our most iconic "Clocktower Garden" to be pollinator friendly!



## POLICIES & PRACTICES

Our committee is grounded by our co-chairs, Monica Sheppard and Andi Beyer. Along with her friends and daughter in the BeeShees, Monica has kept bees for 10 years and has been known to carry bees and bee stuff to numerous classrooms, garden clubs and civic clubs to talk about the importance of bees and pollinators in our environment. "Save the bees!" is her mantra, and she never gets tired of saying it. Andi is also a beekeeper, a member of the Bee Shees, and a dedicated pollinator champion, who uses bee products in any way she can! One of the founding members of the Rome Floyd Beekeepers Association, Andi strives to promote pollinators in all she does!

Ginny Word is our Board Secretary. She is a certified Floyd County Master Gardener Extension Volunteer. Combining her love of nature with interests in pollinators, she spreads the word about the importance of caring for our environment. After working thirty years in public schools, she retired to a second career in higher

education as an adjunct instructor at Berry College. Since retiring for the second time, now she pursues her real passion of volunteering in the community.

Emma Wells is the Board Treasurer and is also the City/County Liaison as the Executive Director of Keep Rome Floyd Beautiful. Emma helps to bridge the gap between local government and our mission of saving pollinators!

Tiffany Abbot-Fuller is our final member who represents pollinator efforts in our school systems. Tiffany is a teacher at West End Elementary, whose WEE Bees program is a well known STEM project in our community. Our Board is well rounded and combines vast levels of knowledge and experience, from school teachers, to gardeners, to beekeepers, we all are concerned and involved!

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List**—To be developed  
**Regional Native Plant Supplier List**— To be developed  
**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan**— <http://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html>

Our IPM is currently not adopted into our community's planning documents.

## CONTACT US!

**Committee**— City of Rome Bee Board Co-Chairs: Monica Sheppard, [monicashep@comcast.net](mailto:monicashep@comcast.net); Andi Beyer, [andi@romelabels.com](mailto:andi@romelabels.com)

**Website**— <https://www.romefloyd.com/departments/bee-city-usa>

**Social Media**— <https://www.facebook.com/beecityusaromega/>

